Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TEL AV 03770 271234Z ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W $\,$

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R 271102Z MAY 77 FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6363

CONFIDENTIAL TEL AVIV 3770

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PINT, PGOV, IS

SUBJECT: AN OPINION ON BEGIN'S CONDITION.

- 1. A RELIABLE EMBASSY CONTACT HAS PASSED ON TO US THE OPINION OF DR. MAURICE LEVY CONCERNING BEGIN'S CONDITION. LEVY, A SURGEON OF INTERNATIONAL REPUTATION WHO SERVED A NUMBER OF YEARS AT THE MAYO CLINIC BELIEVES THAT ONLY AFTER OPEN-HEART SURGERY COULD BEGIN BE ABLE TO ASSUME A NORMAL WORK SCHEDULE AS PRIME MINISTER. LEVY SAYS (IN LAYMAN'S LANGUAGE) THAT HE NEEDS A BY-PASS CHANNEL INSTALLED NEAR HIS HEART. WITHOUT SUCH SURGERY, WHICH WOULD INVOLVE FOUR OR FIVE MONTHS CONVALESCENCE, BEGIN WILL HAVE TO SETTLE FOR A FOUR HOUR WORKDAY; AND EVEN THEN, THE PROGNOSIS WOULD NOT BE GOOD.
- 2. LEVY REPORTEDLY REACHED THIS CONCLUSION FOLLOWING A CONVERSATION WITH BEGIN'S PHYSICIAN. PRESUMABLY LEVY DID NOT HIMSELF EXAMINE BEGIN. THERE IS NO INDICATION THAT THE SURGERY IS NOW UNDER CONSIDERATION.

 LEWIS

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Message Attributes

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Channel Indicators: n/a

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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

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Disposition Reason:
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Subject: AN OPINION ON BEGIN\'S CONDITION. TAGS: PINT, PGOV, IS, (BEGIN, MENAHEM)

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Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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